

35A-8-1501 Moratorium on involuntary termination for nonpayment of utility bills -- Eligibility criteria -- Department to establish and certify.

- (1)
 - (a) The department shall establish a program for a seasonal moratorium for involuntary termination for nonpayment by residential customers of essential utility bills.
 - (b) An essential utility is a utility regulated by the Public Service Commission under Title 54, Public Utilities, which is in the business of the retail distribution of electricity or natural gas.
 - (c) A residential customer is a customer defined as in a residential class by the Public Service Commission.
- (2) A residential customer shall meet the following criteria to qualify for the program:
 - (a) gross household income is less than 125% of the federal poverty level or the household has suffered a medical or other emergency, loss of employment, or is experiencing other circumstances which have resulted in a substantial loss of income;
 - (b) the customer has made application to public and private energy assistance programs;
 - (c) the customer is willing to make a good faith effort to pay these utility bills on a consistent basis; and
 - (d) any additional information required by the department.
- (3)
 - (a) A residential customer may file with a local department office an affidavit attesting eligibility under the criteria in Subsection (2).
 - (b) The department shall certify that the customer has met the eligibility requirements and forward a copy of the affidavit to the effected utility.

Renumbered and Amended by Chapter 212, 2012 General Session